

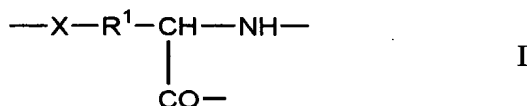
CLAIMS

24. A complex comprising, in admixture, a cationic polymer compound and an anionic active compound, characterised in that the polymer compound comprises a dendritic core having a) a focal group and b) at least one dendron having n levels of dendritically linked trifunctional monomer units where n is in the range 2 to 6 and 2ⁿ terminal branches, cationic groups at at least 50% of said terminal branches of the at least one dendron, and an anchor moiety comprising at least two lipophilic C₆₋₂₄-alkyl, -alkenyl or -alkynyl groups covalently conjugated in the polymer compound.

25. A complex according to claim 24 in which the active compound is an oligo- or poly-nucleotide.

26. A complex according to claim 24 in which the dendritically linked monomer units are amino acid units.

27. A complex according to claim 26 in which the amino acid units each have the formula I



in which R¹ is C₁₋₆-alkanediyl; and

X is -O-, -NH-, -S- or -CO-.

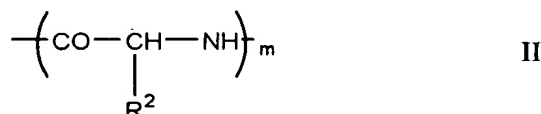
28. A complex according to claim 27 in which R¹ is linear C₂₋₄-alkanediyl.

29. A complex according to claim 27 in which X is -NH-.

30. A complex according to claim 24 in which the said anchor moiety is joined to said focal group.

31. A complex according to claim 30 in which the anchor group comprises lipidic amino acid units joined in series by peptide bonds.

32. A complex according to claim 31 in which each lipidic amino acid group has the formula II

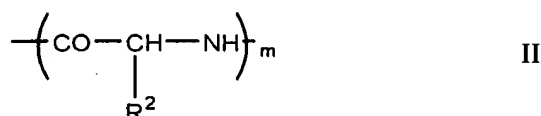


in which R^2 is C_{6-24} -alkyl, -alkenyl or -alkynyl; and

m is at least 2.

33. A complex according to claim 32 in which R^2 is C_{8-16} -alkyl and m is 3.

34. A complex according to claim 29 in which the anchor moiety is joined
5 to the focal group, in which the anchor group comprises lipidic amino acid units
joined in series by peptide bonds, each lipidic amino acid having the formula II



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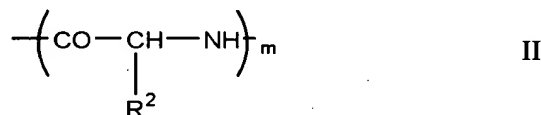
in which R^2 is C_{6-24} -alkyl, -alkenyl or -alkynyl; and

m is at least 2.

35. A complex according to claim 34 in which R^2 is C_{8-16} -alkyl and m is 34

II

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in which R^2 is C_{6-24} -alkyl, -alkenyl or -alkynyl; and

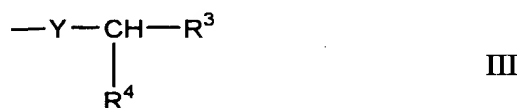
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m is at least 2.

36. A complex according to claim 24 in which the cationic polymer
compound comprises further a second dendron of dendritically linked trifunctional
monomer units, in which the anchor moiety comprises two or more lipophilic groups
each joined to one of two or more terminal groups of the said second dendron.

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37. A complex according to claim 36 in which each lipophilic group has
the formula III



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in which Y is -CO-, -NH-, -O- or -S-;

R^3 is an organic group containing at least one C_{6-24} -alkyl, -alkenyl or -alkynyl group; and

R^4 is hydrogen, amine, protected amine, blocked amine, hydroxyl, blocked hydroxyl, thiol, blocked thiol, carboxylic or blocked carboxylic, C_{1-5} -alkyl, -alkenyl or -alkynyl group or is a group selected from the same groups as R^3 .

38. A complex according to claim 37 in which

Y is -CO-;

R^3 is C_{6-24} alkyl; and

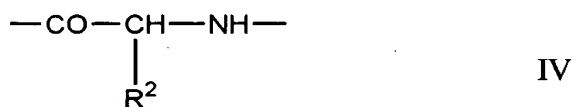
R^4 is $NHCOCH_3$.

39. A complex according to claim 24 in which the number n of levels of dendritically linked units in the said at least one dendron is in the range 3 to 6.

40. A complex according to claim 36 in which the number n of levels of dendritically linked units in the said at least one dendron is in the range 3 to 6.

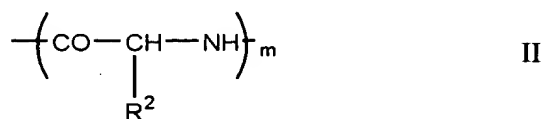
41. A complex according to claim 36 in which the number of levels of dendritically linked units in the second dendron is 2.

42. A complex comprising in admixture a cationic hydrophobised polypeptide compound and an anionic active compound, characterised in that the polypeptide compound comprises a cationic polypeptide moiety formed from amino acid units having pendant amine groups, and an anchor moiety joined to the cationic polypeptide moiety through peptide bonds, the anchor moiety comprising at least two groups of the formula IV



in which R^2 is a C_{6-24} -alkyl, -alkenyl or -alkynyl group.

43. A complex according to claim 42 in which the anchor is a group of formula II



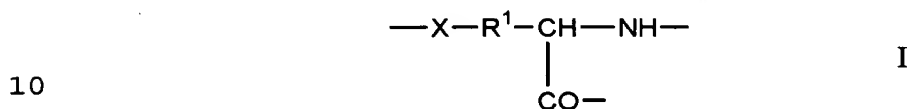
in which R^2 is C_{6-24} -alkyl, -alkenyl or -alkynyl; and

m is at least 2.

44. A complex according to claim 43 in which R^2 is C_{8-16} -alkyl and m is 3.

45. A complex according to claim 42 in which the active compound is an oligo- or poly-nucleotide.

46. A complex formed of an oligo- or polynucleotide and an anchored
5 cationic polypeptide compound, in which the polypeptide compound comprises a core having at least one dendron of n levels of dendritically linked amino acid units of the formula I



in which R^1 is C_{1-6} -alkanediyl; and

X is -O-, -NH-, -S- or -CO-

n is in the range 2 to 6; the polypeptide compound further having 2ⁿ terminal
15 branches

and having cationic groups at at least 50% of said terminal branches and further comprising an anchoring moiety conjugated to the polypeptide core.

47. A complex according to claim 46 in which the anchoring moiety is conjugated to the core through a peptide bond.

20 48. A complex according to claim 46 in which the oligo- or polynucleotide is counterionically bound to the cationic polypeptide.

49. A composition comprising a complex according to claim 24 and a carrier.

50. A composition comprising a complex according to claim 42 and a
25 carrier.

51. A composition comprising a complex according to claim 46 and a carrier.

52. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a complex according to claims 24 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

30 53. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a complex according to claim 42 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

54. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a complex according to claim 46 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

55. A method in which a complex according to claim 24 is administered to an animal.

5 56. An *in vitro* method in which in a first step, a cell culture is transfected by a complex according to claim 25 and the culture is grown in a second step.

57. A method according to claim 56 in which the said oligo- or poly-nucleotide encodes a peptide or protein product and in which, in a third step, the cell culture is assayed for the said product, or the said product is isolated.